

DATE: December 28, 2015

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager

SUBJECT: Resolution in Support of Universal Pre-K and Improved Early Literacy Task Force

### **Executive Summary**

Access to Universal Pre-K and access to high quality early childhood literacy programs have been identified as a significant predictor of school readiness and academic outcomes. Over the past several months the Durham Leadership Committee has been discussing opportunities to consider expansion of these programs and agreed that the appointment of a task force to study the issues of the components and implementation of expanded Universal Pre-K and early childhood literacy programs was a key next step to move these discussions forward. Durham Public Schools and Durham County recently adopted similar resolutions in support of the intent.

### **Recommendation**

That the City Council adopt a Resolution in Support of Universal Access to Pre-Kindergarten and Other Appropriate Strategies to Improve Early Literacy in Durham County.

### **Background**

Over the past several months the Durham Leadership Committee has been discussing opportunities to consider expansion of these programs and agreed that the appointment of a task force to study the issues of the components and implementation of expanded Universal Pre-K and early childhood literacy programs was a key next step to move these discussions forward. Durham Public Schools and Durham County recently adopted similar resolutions in support of the intent.

### **Financial Impact**

None Expected

### **SBDE Requirements**

Not applicable.

### **Attachments:**

1. Durham County Resolution
2. Durham Public Schools Resolution